

Celebration of the Eucharist
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
MIDNIGHT MASS

December 25th, 2024



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH

INTRODUCTORY RITES

From our individual lives and situations, we gather as one family.

OPENING HYMN

Oh Come, All Ye Faithful

1. Adeste Fideles Laeti Triumphantes,
Venite, Venite in Bethlehem.
Natum Videte, Regem Angelorum;
Venite Adoremus,
Venite Adoremus,
Venite Adoremus,
Dominum!
2. O come all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born one happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appealing;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

GREETING

Presider: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

PENITENTIAL ACT

During the Penitential Act, we acknowledge the sin that affects our relationship with God, ourselves, others, and the world around us. We seek Christ's healing love and forgiveness in order that we might be transformed.

Presider: Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you are the eternal Word of God, in unapproachable light:

Deacon : Lord, have mercy.

All : Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you took flesh in the womb of the Virgin:

Deacon: Christ have mercy.

All : Christ have mercy.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you reconcile us to the Father and to one another:

Deacon: Lord, have mercy.

All : Lord, have mercy.

Presider: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All : Amen.

CHRISTMAS GLORIA

Ancient hymn by which the Church, gathered in Holy Spirit, glorifies, and entreats God the Father and the Lamb.

French carol
Setting by Daniel W. Laginya

The musical score for 'Christmas Gloria' is written in 2/2 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff with a long slur over the first four measures. The lyrics 'Glo -' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,'. The third staff continues the melody with lyrics 'glo -'. The fourth staff concludes the melody with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o'. The score ends with a double bar line.

Copyright © 2011 by GIA Publications, Inc. • All Rights Reserved

COLLECT

Presider: O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendor of true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for eve and ever.

All : Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Through the Scriptures, we receive teaching, correction, and training in righteousness. We are guided and instructed in faith and in how to live in right relationship with God, others, ourselves, and creation.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9: 1 - 6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

The Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98

All the Ends of the Earth

The musical notation is presented in three systems. The first system is a single melodic line in treble clef, starting with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It is marked *unis.* and includes the lyrics: "All the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God;". The second system consists of two staves: a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef. Both are marked *div.* and include the lyrics: "all the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God." The vocal line ends with the instruction *To verses*. The key signature and time signature remain consistent throughout.

1. Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done wondrous deeds; whose right hand has won the victory for us. God's holy arm. **R:**
2. The Lord has made salvation known and justice revealed to all, remembering kindness and faithfulness to Israel. **R:**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen salvation by our God. Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth in song. **R:**
4. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, with trumpet with horn. Sing in your joy before the king, the king, our Lord. **R:**

SECOND READING

Timothy 2: 11 - 14

Beloved:

The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

The Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION- ALLELUIA

GOSPEL

Luke 2: 1 - 14

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days, a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So, all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

For the nurturing of Christian life. An explanation of some aspect of the readings from Sacred Scripture taking into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The whole gathered people honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith by pronouncing the rule of faith before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

*and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man. (Pause while all genuflect)*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Petitions are offered for the holy Church, for those who govern in authority over us, for those weighed down by various needs, for all humanity, and for the salvation of the whole world.

Response: Lord hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

At the Last Supper Christ instituted the Paschal Sacrifice and banquet, by which the Sacrifice of the Cross is continuously made present in the Church whenever the Priest, representing Christ the Lord, carries out what the Lord himself did and handed over to his disciples to be done in his memory.

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS/OFFERTORY

The Altar, or Lord's table, which is the center of the whole Liturgy of the Eucharist, is made ready.

We give thanks to God for our many blessings and bring gifts to the Altar. This is also the time of the Mass reserved to make our donation. For your convenience, you can scan the QR code provided here for our new online giving platform, PushPay. Thank you for your generosity.



Angel's Carol – Choir

Presider: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Presider: May the oblation of this day's feast be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we may be found in the likeness of Christ, in whom our nature is united to you. Who lives for ever and ever.

All: Amen

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The center and high point of the entire celebration begins. The whole congregation of the faithful join with Christ in confessing the great deeds of God and in the offering of the Sacrifice.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right and just.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The congregation joins in song with the heavenly powers.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
hosts. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

MYSTERY OF FAITH

Memorial Acclamation

All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, until you come again.

CONSECRATION

The Holy Spirit transforms the gifts on the altar into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Christ's sacrifice also enters our hearts as we participate in it, that we might come to know and model the love that is present in the sacrifice.

DOXOLOGY AND GREAT AMEN

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

All: Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The congregation praises the Father, prays for the coming of his Kingdom on earth, and recalls the need for reconciliation to God and others.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

THE RITE OF PEACE

The Church entreats peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their unity and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament.

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon or Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

DOXOLOGY AND GREAT AMEN

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

All: Amen!

COMMUNION

The faithful are made one body by receiving Communion from the one Bread of Life, which is Christ, who for the salvation of the world died and rose again.

As Catholics, we recognize the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Those who are not Catholic or those Catholics who cannot now receive Communion, may come forward during the Communion Procession and receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest. This indicates to any Minister of Communion that you are receiving a blessing rather than Holy Communion.

What Child is This

1. What Child is this, who laid to rest, on
Mary's lap is sleeping, whom angels greet with
anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping.

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary.**

2. Why lies he in such mean estate, where
ox and ass are feeding. Good Christian, fear;
for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading.
3. So, bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come,
peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings
salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.

In the Bleak Midwinter – Choir

See Amid The Winter's Snow

1. See amid the winter's snow, Born for us on earth below,
See the gentle lamb appears, Promised from eternal years. **R:**
2. There within a manger lies, He who built the starry skies,
He who throned in heights sublime, Sits amid the cherubim. **R:**
3. Say you holy shepherds, say, Tell your joyful news today.
Why have you now left your sheep, On the lonely mountain steep? **R:**
4. As we watched at dead of night, There appeared a wonderous light;
Angels singing peace on earth, Told us of the savior's birth. **R:**

R: Hail that ever-blessed morn, Hail redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Hark ! the Herald Angels Sing



new - born King! Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,
last - ing Lord! Late in time be - hold him come,
Right-eous-ness! Light and life to all he brings,



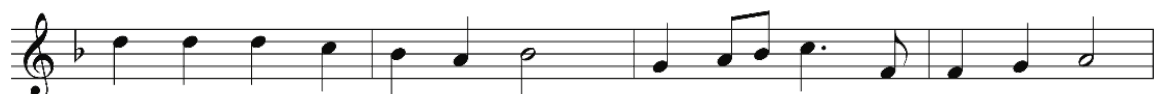
God and sin - ners rec - on-ciled!" Joy - ful, all you
Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his



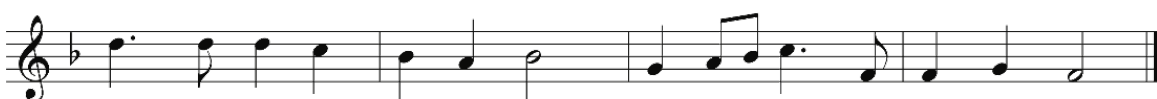
na - tions, rise; Join the tri - umph of the skies;
God-head see; Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er -
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
Tune: MENDELSSOHN, 77 77 D with refrain; Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider: Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, that we, who are gladdened by participation in the feast of our Redeemer's Nativity, may through an honorable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we live out our baptismal consecration in the world. Renewed by the Eucharist, we are sent back into our daily lives to transform our communities and world. Mass is complete after the last Hymn is sung. Out of respect we ask you to remain in your pew until after the recessional is completed.

Joy to the World



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
 2. Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
 3. No more let sin and sor - row grow, Nor
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And



earth re - ceive her king; Let ev - 'ry
 us our songs em - ploy; While fields and
 thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
 makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and na - ture
 floods, rocks, hills and plains Re - peat the sound - ing
 make his bless - ings flow Far as the curse is
 of his right - eous - ness, And won - ders of his



sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
 joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 found, Far as the curse is found, Far
 love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: ANTIOCH, CM: arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759, in T. Hawkes' *Collection of Tunes*, 1833

All included explanations are from the *Roman Missal* and/or UCSSB website.

“May each Christmas, as it comes, find us more and more like Him, who at this time became a little child for our sake, more simple-minded, more humble, more holy, more affectionate, more resigned, more happy, more full of God.” (St. John Henry Newman)

Merry Christmas.

St Francis of Assisi - Priests, Deacons, and Pastoral Team